



Fermanagh & Omagh
District Council
Comhairle Ceantair
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí

Screening Matrix.

Statement of Intent. The Council intends to screen its policies, in accordance with Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Equality Scheme, to determine which would require a fuller equality analysis in the form of an impact assessment

Part 1: Policy Scoping

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy or policy area. The purpose of policy scoping is to help prepare the background and context and set out the aims and objectives for the policy being screened. At this stage, scoping the policy will help identify potential constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy maker work through the screening process on a step by step basis.

You should remember that the Section 75 statutory duties apply to internal policies (relating to people who work for the authority), as well as external policies (relating to those who are, or could be, served by the authority).

Information about the policy

Name of the policy or policy area:

Charity Support Policy

Is this an existing, revised or a new policy/policy area?

Existing	Revised	New
		X

Brief Description

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council receives a significant number of unsolicited requests each year from charities seeking council support in fundraising.

Such requests represent a potentially vast range of worthwhile activities, which requires a coherent basis for ranking or prioritising the requests. This policy is

designed to provide consistency in relation to the criteria used to assess applications for assistance.

What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims and outcomes)

The aims of the policy are:

The aims of the policy are to:

- i. Demonstrate the Council’s Corporate Social Responsibility.
- ii. Allow the Council to celebrate the achievements of charitable organisations and recognise the importance of their contribution to the council area.
- iii. Provide transparent criteria for the provision of support to charities.
- iv. Provide clear guidelines on the type of support available.

Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?

YES	NO	N/A
	X	

If YES, explain how.

The policy will add to the promotion of equality of opportunity for all Section 75 Categories through a transparent process that is open to all charities and not only ones that approach Council or have been involved in the past.

Who initiated or wrote the policy?

Head of Policy and Strategic Services

Who owns and who implements each element of the policy?

The Chief Executive has overall responsibility for the implementation of the Charity Support Policy. Employees are expected to follow this policy and take the appropriate action to meet the aims and objectives.

Implementation factors

Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?

YES	NO	N/A
X		

If YES, are they

Financial:

The Policy will operate within available Council resources.

Legislative:

Other, please specify:

N/A

Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

Service users: Residents within the district

Other public sector organisations: N/A

Voluntary/community/trade unions: Those groups seeking or having obtained charitable status

Other, please specify:

Charitable Organisations

[Other policies with a bearing on this policy](#)

What are they and who owns them?

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Corporate Strategy, the External Lighting Policy and the Civic Hospitality Policy.

Available evidence

Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data.

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

Section 75 Category	Details of Evidence/Information
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Religious Belief	64.23% belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion and 33.08% belong to or were brought up in a 'Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)' religion
Political Opinion	<p>The political opinion of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <p>Sinn Féin 17 Seats UUP 9 Seats SDLP 8 DUP 5 Independent 1</p> <p>This breakdown is taken as an approximate representation of political opinion among people within the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.</p>
Race	<p>On Census day 2011, 13.4% of the population of Fermanagh and Omagh was not born in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>0.84% were from an ethnic minority population and the remaining 99.16% were white (including Irish Traveller).</p> <p>To date Council has received no requests for signage in a minority ethnic language.</p>
Age	<p>Below is the age profile of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area:</p> <p>0 – 15 yrs: 24,808 16 – 39 yrs: 35,897 40 – 64 yrs: 36,517 65 – 84 yrs: 13,972 85+ yrs: 1,967</p>
Marital Status	<p>On Census Day 2011 the marital status profile of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area was:</p> <p>Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)- Aged 16+ yrs: 31,598</p> <p>Married- Aged 16+ yrs: 44,296</p> <p>In a registered same-sex civil partnership - Aged 16+ yrs: 48</p> <p>Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)- Aged 16+ yrs: 2,851</p> <p>Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now</p>

	<p>legally dissolved - Aged 16+ yrs: 3,573</p> <p>Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership - Aged 16+ years: 5,987</p>
Gender	<p>On Census Day 2011 the gender breakdown of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area was:</p> <p>Males: 56,649 (50.06%) Females: 56,512 (49.94%)</p>
Disability	<p>20.75% of residents in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area have a long term health problem or disability, split as follows:</p> <p>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot: 13, 304</p> <p>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little: 10, 178</p> <p>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited: 89, 679</p>
Dependants	<p>Families in households - No dependent children:14,962</p> <p>Families in households - One dependent child:5,571</p> <p>Families in households - Two dependent children:5,068</p> <p>Families in households - Three or more dependent children:3,871</p>

Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 Category	Details of Needs/Experiences/Priorities
Religious Belief	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.

Section 75 Category	Details of Needs/Experiences/Priorities
Political Opinion	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Race	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Disability	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Age	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Marital Status	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Sexual Orientation	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Gender	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Dependents	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.

Part 2: Screening Questions

Introduction

1. If the conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 categories, then you may decide to screen the policy out. If a policy is 'screened out', you should give details of the reasons for the decision taken.

2. If the conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 categories, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to an EQIA.

3. If the conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 categories, then consideration should still be given to proceeding with an EQIA, or to measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or an alternative policy.

In favour of a 'major' impact

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts are unknown, because, for example, there is insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and hence it would be appropriate to conduct an EQIA;
- c) Potential equality and/or good relations impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
- d) Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are concerns among affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;
- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

In favour of 'minor' impact

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

In favour of none

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.
- b) The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

Taking into account the earlier evidence, consider and comment on the likely impact on equality of opportunity / good relations for those affected by this policy, by applying the following screening questions and the impact on the group i.e. minor, major or none.

Screening questions

1 What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 grounds? Minor/Major/None		
Section 75 Category	Details of Policy Impact	Level of Impact? Minor/Major/None
Religious belief		None
Political opinion		None
Racial / ethnic group		None
Age		None
Marital status		None
Sexual orientation		None
Men and women generally		None
Disability		None
Dependants		None

2 Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within any of the Section 75 categories?		
Section 75 Category	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide reasons
Religious belief	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Political opinion	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Racial / ethnic group	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Age	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Marital status	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Sexual orientation	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Men and women generally	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Disability	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Dependants	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	

3 To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? Minor/Major/None		
Good Relations Category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact Minor/Major/None
Religious belief		Minor
Political opinion		Minor
Racial group		Minor

4 Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?		
Good relations category	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide reasons
Religious Belief	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Political Opinion	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	
Race	Increased awareness of opportunities for support	

Additional considerations

Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities?

(For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

N/A

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

N/A

5. Is there an opportunity to better promote positive attitudes towards people with disabilities by altering the policy or working with others in government or the wider community? Yes / ~~No~~

The new policy provides an opportunity for Council to support and promote charities run by or for people with disabilities.

6. Is there an opportunity to encourage people with disabilities to participate in public life by altering the policy or working with others in government or the wider community? Yes / ~~No~~.

The new policy provides an opportunity for Council to support and promote charities run by or for people with disabilities.

Part 3: Screening Decision

In light of your answers to the previous questions, do you feel that the policy should: (please indicate one):

- 1. Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)**
- 2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures / alternative policies)**
- 3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time**
- 4. Be subject to an EQIA**

Option 1:

The policy should not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required).

If 1. or 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons why:

The New Charity Support Policy will not have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity nor on the promotion of good relations. The policy will add to the promotion of equality of opportunity through a transparent process that is open to all charities and not only ones that approach Council or have been involved in the past

If 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), in what ways can identified adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced?

In light of these revisions, is there a need to re-screen the revised/alternative policy at a future date? YES / NO

If 3. or 4. (i.e. to conduct an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons:

Timetabling and Prioritising EQIA

If 3. or 4., is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? YES / NO

If YES, please provide details:

Please answer the following questions to determine priority for timetabling the EQIA. On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for EQIA.

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
Social need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Relevance to a public authority's functions	

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for EQIA. This list of priorities will assist you in timetabling the EQIA. Details of your EQIA timetable should be included in the quarterly Section 75 report.

Proposed date for commencing EQIA: _____

Any further comments on the screening process and any subsequent actions?

The Policy will, under normal circumstances, be formally reviewed every three years and will also be subject to routine scrutiny and, from time to time, updates and re-issues will be circulated.

The policy will be reviewed sooner in the event of any one or more of the following:

- A failure or weakness in the policy is highlighted.
- Changes in legislative requirements.
- Changes in Government/Council or other directives and requirements.

Part 4: Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impacts arising from the policy which may lead you to conduct an EQIA, as well as help with future planning and policy development. You should consider the guidance contained in the Commission's Monitoring Guidance for Use by Public Authorities (July 2007). The Commission recommends that where the policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced, then you should monitor more broadly than for adverse impact (See Benefits, P.9-10, paras 2.13 – 2.20 of the Monitoring Guidance).

Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

The Policy will, under normal circumstances, be formally reviewed every three years and will also be subject to routine scrutiny.

Where there is an indication of adverse impact then the policy will be reviewed more frequently and necessary adjustments will be made.

Monitoring arrangements will be put in place and action taken where indicates potential adverse effects.

The impact of the Charity Support Policy will be monitored by the analysis of:
Number of charities approaching Council for support
Number of charities receiving support

Part 5: Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
	Head of Policy and Strategic Services	
Approved by:		
	Chief Executive	